

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 077673
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY L:JMICHEL/L/AF:NHELY/AF/E:RPOST
APPROVED BY AF:WHARROP
S/P:PKRIESBERG
H:NLEDSKY
PM:AKANTER
S/S-O:SVALERGA

-----127257 250245Z /62

O 250203Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 077673

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SO, US, PGOV

SUBJECT: SOMALI ASSURANCES ON BORDERS

1. FORWARDED HERewith FOR YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTED
CHANGES (WHICH WE NEED BY OPENING OF BUSINESS MARCH 27)
ARE DRAFTS, NOT YET FULLY CLEARED, OF TWO LETTERS REPRESENT-
ING ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF ELIMINATING THE AMBIGUITIES LEFT
BY SIAD'S LETTER TO SPECIAL EMISSARY MOOSE (MOGADISCIO 629).
YOU WILL NOTE THAT THE DRAFTS INCLUDE REFERENCE TO THE
ADDITION OF LETHAL WEAPONS TO THE MILITARY PACKAGE DIS-
CUSSED WITH SIAD. THIS IDEA ALSO IS ONLY IN THE CONSIDERA-
TION STAGE AND HAS NOT YET BEEN APPROVED FOR CONVEYING TO
SIAD IN THIS LETTER OR OTHERWISE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE
YOUR APPRAISAL OF THE ADVISABILITY AND LIKELY IMPACT ON
SIAD OF SUCH LETTERS, WITH OR WITHOUT THE INCLUSION OF

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THE LANGUAGE ON ANTI-TANK WEAPONS, AND YOUR VIEWS AS TO
WHICH OF THE VERSIONS IS MORE LIKELY TO PROVE ACCEPTABLE
TO SIAD.

BEGIN TEXT A: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: THANK YOU FOR YOUR
LETTER OF MARCH 23 DELIVERED TO ME BY AMBASSADOR ADDOU
SHORTLY BEFORE MY DEPARTURE FROM MOGADISCIO. I AM PLEASED

THAT OUR LENGTHY CONVERSATIONS HAVE SUCCEEDED IN LAYING THE BASIS FOR A FUTURE OF CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS, AS YOUR LETTER INDICATES. IN OUR DISCUSSIONS, YOU ADVANCED A NUMBER OF SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING THE WORDING OF MY LETTER TO YOU IN ORDER TO MAKE IT MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE. IN THAT SPIRIT, I HOPE YOU WILL ENTERTAIN SOME FEW CHANGES IN YOUR RESPONSE TO MY LETTER IN ORDER TO MAKE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE AN AGREEMENT WHICH PROMISES TO BE FUNDAMENTAL TO THE FUTURE OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. WITH MY PROPOSED CHANGES INCORPORATED, YOUR LETTER WOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

"DEAR MR. RICHARD MOOSE: I HAVE THE HONOUR TO REFER TO YOUR LETTER DATED 22/3/78 REGARDING EVENTUAL UNITED STATES MILITARY AID TO THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC. FOLLOWING THE FAVORABLE DECISION OF THE POLITBUREAU OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOMALI REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST PARTY, I WISH TO CONFIRM THAT THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS YOUR PROPOSAL. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE INTENTION AND SPIRIT OF THIS AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS WILL BE REALIZED. I LOOK FORWARD TO A FUTURE OF BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLE. PLEASE ACCEPT MY PERSONAL HIGHEST ESTEEM AND REGARDS. CORDIALLY YOURS, MAJOR
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GENERAL MOHAMED SIAD BARRE, PRESIDENT OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC."

I HOPE YOU AGREE WITH ME THAT THIS REVISION DOES NOT ALTER ANY OF THE SUBSTANCE OF YOUR LETTER. WHAT I HAVE TRIED TO DO IN THIS REVISION IS TO REMOVE FROM THE TEXT OF YOUR LETTER ELEMENTS WHICH MIGHT BE SEIZED UPON BY CRITICS TO QUESTION THE VALUE OF THE IMPORTANT ASSURANCES TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WHICH YOUR LETTER IS OBVIOUSLY INTENDED TO CONVEY.

YOU WILL RECALL MY MENTION TO YOU OF A DOLS 10 MILLION PACKAGE TO BE DELIVERED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AS A GESTURE OF POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT. FOLLOWING OUR DISCUSSIONS, I HAVE SECURED MY GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT TO HAVE INCLUDED IN THAT PACKAGE SOME DOLS 2 MILLION TO DOLS 3 MILLION WORTH OF ANTI-TANK WEAPONS. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD CONFIRM TO AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN YOUR AGREEMENT TO THIS PROPOSAL AND ALSO IF YOU WOULD INDICATE TO HIM YOUR CONSIDERED VIEWS ON A POSSIBLE VISIT BY A MILITARY SURVEY TEAM TO INVESTIGATE OTHER WAYS IN WHICH THE US MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO SOMALIA'S SECURITY.

(COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE). END TEXT A.

3. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO ASKING SIAD TO "CORRECT" HIS LETTER, WE COULD ACCEPT HIS REPLY AS A FIRST, PRELIMINARY

STEP AND NOW RESPOND GOING TO THE NEXT LOGICAL STEP WITH A LETTER FROM YOU TO SIAD ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

4. BEGIN TEXT B: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I AM PLEASED THAT THE DISCUSSIONS RECENTLY CONCLUDED BETWEEN YOU AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S SPECIAL EMISSARY, MR. MOOSE, HAVE SUCCEEDED IN LAYING THE BASIS FOR A FUTURE OF CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS.

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ON THE BASIS OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS, MY GOVERNMENT IS INITIATING THE STEPS REQUIRED UNDER UNITED STATES LAW FOR THE FURNISHING OF DEFENSE ARTICLES AND DEFENSE SERVICES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC

REPUBLIC. THE FIRST STEP WILL BE THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S RECOMMENDATION TO PRESIDENT CARTER THAT HE SIGN THE NECESSARY FORMAL DETERMINATION OF SOMALIA'S ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES PROGRAM OF THE UNITED STATES. IN ORDER FOR THIS DETERMINATION TO BE SIGNED, WE WILL AT THIS TIME NEED WRITTEN ASSURANCE THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF THE CONDITIONS STATED IN MR. MOOSE'S LETTER OF 22/3/78 BY THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOMALI REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST PARTY, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC WILL, EXCEPT FOR PURPOSES OF THE INTERNAL SECURITY OR LEGITIMATE DEFENSE OF THE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED TERRITORY OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, REFRAIN FROM THE USE OF FORCE AGAINST ANY OTHER COUNTRY AND ACCEPTS THE SPECIFIC CONDITIONS CONTAINED IN MR. MOOSE'S LETTER CONCERNING USE, TRANSFER AND SECURITY OF DEFENSE ARTICLES AND SERVICES FURNISHED BY THE UNITED STATES.

ONCE YOUR CONFIRMATION IS RECEIVED, THE DOLS 10 MILLION PACKAGE MENTIONED TO YOU BY MR. MOOSE WILL BE DELIVERED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AS A GESTURE OF POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH MR. MOOSE'S RECOMMENDATION, SOME DOLS 2 MILLION TO DOLS 3 MILLION WORTH OF ANTI-TANK WEAPONS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THAT PACKAGE.

I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD CONFIRM YOUR INTEREST

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YOUR CONSIDERED VIEWS ON OUR PROPOSAL TO SEND A MILITARY
SURVEY TEAM TO INVESTIGATE OTHER WAYS IN WHICH THE US
MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO SOMALIA'S SECURITY. (COMPLIMENTARY
CLOSE) END TEXT B. VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 077673
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: IO/UNA:BJSHARP

APPROVED BY: IO/UNA:AFHOLLOWAY

S/S-O:KDROBINSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0000

S E C R E T STATE 077673

EXDIS FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 077673 SENT ACTION MOGADISCIO 25 MAR 78

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 077673

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E.O. 11652: GDS

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WILL BE REALIZED. I LOOK FORWARD TO A FUTURE OF BETTER
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GENERAL MOHAMED SIAD BARRE, PRESIDENT OF THE SOMALI
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STATED IN MR. MOOSE'S LETTER OF 22/3/78 BY THE POLIT-
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CLOSE) END TEXT B. VANCE

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

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Draft Date: 25 mar 1978
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Film Number: D780131-0587
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From: STATE
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: MASS, PGOV, SO, US
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